

**JEFFERSON COUNTY REMEDY LANDS**

**SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT**

**JANUARY, 1992**

## JEFFERSON COUNTY REMEDY LANDS SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT - WINTER 1992

### INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes the revegetation activities conducted on the Jefferson County Remedy Lands during 1991 and the follow-up plans for 1992. Revegetation activities were conducted on the Remedy Lands as outlined in the "Jefferson County Remedy Lands Semi-Annual Report, Summer 1991". A general discussion of the revegetation activities is found in this report. A detailed summation of activities is found in the Appendix of this report. This summation is written by the contractor responsible for managing the work, CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill.

Final approval of the Operable Unit No. 3 (OU 3) Remedial Investigation (RI) Work Plan is scheduled for February 1992 by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Colorado Department of Health (CDH). The RI Work Plan is directed by the Interagency Agreement (IAG) between DOE, EPA, and CDH to investigate contamination from Rocky Flats Plant to offsite areas. The Jefferson County Remedy Lands are contained within OU 3, and will be sampled during the field sampling activities scheduled for 1992. Jefferson County personnel have reviewed and commented on this Work Plan as members of the Technical Review Group. The RI Report, summarizing results of the field sampling, is scheduled for final approval in January of 1994. Field sampling results from the Remedy Lands will be summarized in future reports to Jefferson County as the data becomes available.

### REVEGETATION OF REMEDY LANDS

All revegetation activities conducted on the Remedy Lands were outlined in the "Jefferson County Remedy Lands Semi-Annual Report, Summer 1991". A general chronology of revegetation events occurring in 1991 includes the following:

- A field assessment of vegetative conditions occurred during spring and early summer.
- A specific revegetation plan was developed by EG&G, EG&G's contractors and SCS personnel based on the Jefferson County Remedy Lands Semi-Annual Report, Summer 1991
- Mowing to inhibit weed growth was done in late July.
- The appropriate seed mix (see appendix Table 1) was broadcast and incorporated into the soil in November
- Hay already on the site from previous revegetation activities was spread as a mulch. Additional mulch material was not needed due to the large amount of vegetative matter on the soil surface.

Figures 1 and 2 summarize the areas seeded, type of seed mix used and areas receiving hay mulch. A detailed summary report by CH<sub>2</sub>M Hill is found in the appendix of this document.

### PLANNED FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Activities planned for the 1992 growing season include intensive spring, summer and fall monitoring of revegetation results, as well as overall land conditions. Results of this evaluation will trigger one of two activities: 1) if the entire area contains an adequate density of seeded plant seedlings following the 1992 spring vegetation evaluation, no further action would be proposed other than continued monitoring; and 2) if areas with poor germination are found next spring, these areas may be reseeded depending upon the extent and degree of failure. Monitoring of the revegetation results will be performed to provide information on follow-up recommendations. Weed populations and impact will be monitored continuously during 1992. Weed control by herbicide application and/or mowing will be considered if weed populations are found to adversely effect the revegetation effort.

As stated in earlier reports, the ability to schedule future tilling operations is limited by lack of revegetation success. Previous reports to Jefferson County have outlined historically poor revegetation results. The Settlement Agreement states that tiling of the alternate set of strips shall not begin until the first set is successfully reestablished in native plant species. Results of the OU 3 Remedial Investigation will also be used to plan future activities on the Remedy Lands.